

**Amendments to the Specification:**

**On page 1, please amend the first paragraph as follows:**

This application is a continuation of, ~~and claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of~~  
~~co~~pending United States patent Application Serial No. 09/739,907, filed December 20,  
2000 (now abandoned), ~~which is incorporated by reference in its entirety, and~~ which is a  
continuation of, ~~and claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of co~~pending United States  
patent Application Serial No. 09/348,457, filed July 7, 1999 (now abandoned), ~~which is~~  
~~incorporated by reference in its entirety, and~~ which is a continuation-in-part of, ~~and claims~~  
~~benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of co~~pending United States patent International  
Application Serial No. PCT/US99/00108 ~~(in English)~~, filed January 6, 1999, ~~which is~~  
~~hereby incorporated by reference,~~ which claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) based on  
U.S. Provisional Application ~~Applications~~ Nos. 60/070,704, filed January 7, 1998,;  
60/070,658, filed January 7, 1998,; 60/070,692, filed January 7, 1998,; and 60/070,657,  
filed January 7, 1998 ~~all of which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.~~  
Each of the above referenced patent applications is hereby incorporated by reference in its  
entirety.